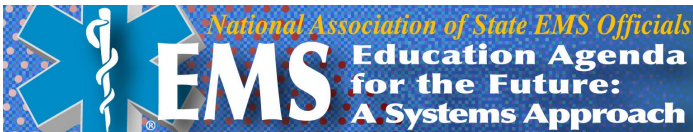


Attention Paramedic Candidates:

Is your program CAAHEP accredited??



National EMS Core Content
National EMS Scope of Practice Model
National EMS Education Standards
National EMS Education Program Accreditation
National EMS Certification



IF YOU ARE ENROLLED IN A CAAHEP ACCREDITED PARAMEDIC PROGRAM ...

...then **CONGRATULATIONS!!!** The *EMS Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach*¹ calls for **certification based on successful completion of a nationally accredited program of instruction**. Program accreditation is a tool intended to help ensure a well-prepared and qualified workforce providing health care services. It is designed to support a philosophy of on-going improvements within a program that will ensure the highest quality education for EMS professionals throughout the country. As in other professions, the accrediting agency identifies compliance with national standards and assists the program and faculty identify solutions. The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) is the largest programmatic accreditor in the allied health sciences field. Currently, the only nationally recognized accreditation available for EMS education is through CAAHEP's Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP). Even prior to state requirements, many EMS programs have demonstrated a professional commitment to EMS education by pursuing CAAHEP accreditation.

The *Education Agenda's* goal for national EMS certification based on national EMS program accreditation **becomes operational January 1, 2013**, when:

- ◆ 74% of states and US territories will require that paramedic programs be nationally accredited; and
- ◆ the National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) implements programmatic accreditation as an eligibility requirement for National EMS Certification at the paramedic level.

Within the next five years, 81% of states and US territories have committed to implementing a requirement for national EMS program accreditation.

IF YOU ARE ENROLLED IN A PARAMEDIC PROGRAM SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AFTER 12/31/12

...you need to know if the program *intends* to become nationally accredited by December 31, 2012. CAAHEP's Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP) has implemented a [Letter of Review \(LoR\) process](#), which will be the official designation that a Paramedic program is in the "Becoming Accredited" process. EMS Programs that have not completed the national accreditation process by December 31, 2012 must have an LoR on file for paramedic candidates to be eligible for National EMS Certification in 2013. **Paramedic candidates that enroll in a program not accredited by CAAHEP AFTER January 1, 2013 will become permanently ineligible for National EMS Certification through the NREMT and may find difficulties in career growth, mobility (reciprocity) among states for licensure, and diminished professional recognition.** The program accreditation requirement will not have an effect on paramedics who possess an active state/territorial license and it has NO bearing or impact on the recertification of paramedics.

1. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Emergency Medical Services Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Transportation/National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, June 2000. DOT HS 809 042 available at www.ems.gov.



Verify the current accreditation status of any EMS program at www.caahep.org under the "Find an Accredited Program" tab!

NASEMSO

201 Park Washington Court
Falls Church, VA 22046

Phone: 703.538.1799

For more information please contact: Kathy Robinson, NASEMSO Program Manager at robinson@nasemso.org


**National Association of
State EMS Officials**